

We Claim:

- Sub A* 1. A cooking vessel assembly comprising a pan, a removable lid assembly comprising a lid having a generally convex upper surface and a generally concave lower surface and a peripheral rim, said lid assembly further comprising a knob assembly on said upper surface and defining at least one aperture through said knob assembly and said lid, said lid assembly further comprising a thermometer including a probe extending downward through said aperture and a temperature display, wherein said probe has a bottom end disposed above the rim.
2. A cooking vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said knob assembly includes a movable member having a dual function notch formed therein that operates selectively both as a release to selectively permit removal of the movable member for cleaning, and as a slot for vapor discharge to selectively enable the whistle.
3. A cooking vessel in accordance with claim 2 wherein said knob assembly further includes a knob body attached to said lid, a whistle body that provides an audible signal in response to flow of vapor therethrough, and a vapor discharge aperture communicating with said whistle body through which vapor from the whistle body is discharged, and wherein said dual function notch is movable between a whistle-enabling position in which said notch is aligned with said vapor discharge aperture to permit discharge of vapor therethrough, and a range of whistle-disabling positions in which said notch is not aligned with said discharge aperture, such that said movable member inhibits discharge of vapor therethrough.

4. A cooking vessel in accordance with claim 3 wherein said knob body includes a retaining member, and wherein said notch is movable between a release position in which it is aligned with said retaining member and in which said movable member may be removed from said knob body, and a retained position in which said notch is not aligned with said retaining member, and said retaining member prevents removal of said movable member from said knob body.

5. A cooking vessel in accordance with claim 4 wherein said movable member is rotatable.

6. A cooking vessel in accordance with claim 5 wherein said thermometer is fixedly attached to said movable member.

Sub A2 7. A method of cooking comprising placing one or more food items in a cooking pan having a bottom wall, at least one side wall, and a removable lid assembly, said lid assembly having a knob assembly on said upper surface and said lid assembly having at least one aperture therethrough, and a thermometer including a probe extending downward through said aperture and a temperature display;

applying heat to the bottom of the pan;

measuring temperature by means of a said probe, said thermal probe having a lower end disposed above all of said food items to measure temperature between said food items and said lid assembly.

add c2
add d4